

1400 South 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bozeman, MT 59718 September 14, 2011

Roadside Menagerie Permit Bozeman, MT Decision Notice

## **Proposed Action**

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposes to issue a roadside menagerie permit to Animals of Montana, Inc., at 170 Nixon Peak Road in North of Bozeman, MT. The permit will allow the possession of 1 mountain lion, 1 African lion, 3 brown bears, 2 black bears, 12 wolves, 1 tiger, 4 bobcats, 3 lynx, 1 Siberian lynx, 2 badgers, 1 black leopard, 4 skunks, 2 raccoons, 2 fisher, 1 snow leopard, 4 red foxes, 2 cross foxes, and 3 porcupines for commercial purposes. The permit will be issued following final inspection and approval of all cages associated with the facility and receipt of proof of insurance.

# Montana Environmental Policy Act

FWP assessed the impacts of this proposal to both the human and physical environments. These effects were disclosed in the Environmental Assessment (EA) to comply with the requirements of the Montana Environmental Policy Act.

A 15-day comment period was open from August 12, 2011 through August 29, 2011. The EA was distributed to neighboring landowners was posted on the FWP web page. Public notification of the proposed action was facilitated with the distribution of a legal notice in the Bozeman Chronicle and the Livingston Enterprise.

#### Comments Received on the Environmental Assessment

FWP received 3 comments from neighboring landowner on this proposal. All three comments were in support of issuing the roadside menagerie permit to Animals of Montana.

### Final Environmental Assessment for Roadside Menagerie

No significant impacts to the human or physical environment were identified in the Draft EA or through public comment. Therefore, the Draft EA and this Decision Notice will serve as the final document.

## Decision

Based on the information in the Draft EA, it is my decision to proceed with the proposed action. The proposed action is to issue a roadside menagerie permit to animals of Montana, Inc. The issuance of this permit is subject to final inspection upon completion of the project.

Based on the analysis in the EA and applicable laws, regulations and policies, I have determined that this action will not have significant effects on the human or physical environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared. If you have questions regarding this decision notice, please contact me at (406) 994-4042, 1400 South 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Bozeman, MT 59718, or at <a href="mailto:pflowers@mt.gov">pflowers@mt.gov</a>.

Patrick J. Flowers

Region Three Supervisor